

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

On page 1, please amend lines 12-22 as follows:

-- ~~FIELD OF THE INVENTION~~BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention is directed to lithography, and in particular, to compensating for deformities in color separations by imaging correspondingly deformed images on printing plates, such that these plates will print the color separations in register.

~~BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION~~

Conventional lithography processes typically replicate images by transferring ink from a previously prepared plate onto a substrate, typically paper. In offset printing, this transfer is done indirectly by a soft blanket that is stamped by the plate. This soft blanket then impresses this image onto paper. --

Please amend page 4, line 23 through page 5, line 2, as follows:

-- ~~DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS~~INVENTION

The present invention is operable with printing presses, typically digital offset printing presses. For example, one such digital printing press, that uses printing plates is commercially available as the Quickmaster D1, from Heidelberg Druckmaschinen AG of Germany. The present invention utilizes digital offset printing deformation that is performed during the stage of imaging the printing plates and/or cylinders.

The present invention utilizes a microprocessor or other computing device, ~~as detailed above,~~ to automatically obtain relevant information as to the amount of paper distortion induced by the ink-load distribution in the image to be printed, and then employs a strobe/data manipulation system, such as detailed below. --